



## The Musgrove Refrain

But between the eggshells and the stiff upper lip  
There is another way, with our well-chosen words,  
To meet it. And so the certainty is this, that  
With seeing eyes and hearing ears and gentle voice  
We can compose the last paragraph together;  
The story nearly told in this communion.

Hippocrates instructed us to do no harm,  
Both this, and to do good in regards to disease;  
And so with no fix for death the chapter before  
It, written well, can ease the fullness of the stop.

For it is our words, in tender conversation,  
That bring welcome salve to the human denouement.